



# **Santa Ana College**

1530 West 17th Street, Santa Ana, California 92706 (714) 564-6000

**New Faculty Institute**

**August 19, 2014**

**Accreditation Basics**

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# What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is the process for evaluating and assuring the quality of education used by the American higher education community.

and assures... 

the public that accredited colleges meet the standards.

education earned is of value to the student.

employers, trade or profession-related licensing agencies, and other colleges and universities can accept a student's credentials as legitimate.

# Which of the following is true?



- Accreditation is a voluntary system of self regulation developed to evaluate overall educational quality and institutional effectiveness
- It compares colleges to best practices in education.
- It punishes colleges based upon audits.
- It grades and ranks colleges based on standards.
- It is a means of monitoring colleges.
- It guarantees the quality of education to the federal government and the public.

# The Stages of an Accreditation Cycle



- Every six years there is a comprehensive Self Evaluation Report and an external evaluation site visit: SAC and SCC are in this part of the cycle.
- After the visit, the Commission meets and issues a report in January with recommendations for continued improvement.
- There is full reaffirmation of accreditation for six years or a sanction with special reports required and/or an abbreviated visit scheduled.
- All colleges do a Midterm Report after three years with Responses to Recommendations.
- All colleges do an Annual Report and an Annual Financial Report

# Most Common Reasons for Sanctions



- Program review problems
- Planning using assessment results
- Board roles and responsibilities
- Internal governance issues
- Financial management or stability

# It takes a village to prepare the Self Evaluation Report...

**Everyone participates: Faculty, Administration, Classified Staff, Students**



- ALO and VPAA worked with campus community to ensure that goals and timelines established for the Self Evaluation Report were completed.
- Each of the four standards and subsections had co-chairs and teams meeting regularly to gather evidentiary documents and prepare drafts.
- The written report and electronic version was prepared with evidentiary documents by the revision/editing team.
- Accreditation Repository was created--[sac.edu/accreditation](http://sac.edu/accreditation)
- Program Review Repository—[sac.edu/program\\_review](http://sac.edu/program_review)

# The Self Evaluation Report: Accreditation Standards



- Standard I: Institutional Mission and Effectiveness
- Standard II: Student Learning Programs and Services
  - A. Instruction
  - B. Student Services
  - C. Library
- Standard III: Resources
  - Human, fiscal, physical, technology
- Standard IV: Leadership and Governance

# Self Evaluation and Actionable Improvement Plans



Institutional Self Evaluation Report is an honest written analysis of strengths and weaknesses of educational quality and institutional effectiveness based on the institution's continuous evaluation and quality improvement activities which have been considered in the self evaluation process.



# Structure of each of the Standards



- **Descriptive Summary**
- **Self Evaluation**

analyze and systematically evaluate its performance against the Accreditation Standards and its institutional mission.

- **Actionable Improvement Plans**

integrated into the institution's continuous evaluation and planning processes.

# The team is coming!

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- A team of 12 peer evaluators is coming to SAC October 6–9, 2014. A separate team is coming to SCC. Part of each will go to District Operations.
- How do we prepare?
- What do you need to do?

# Questions? Comments? Concerns?



- Now...
- If you think of anything later...
  - Call Bonnie x46989/ [jaros\\_bonita@sac.edu](mailto:jaros_bonita@sac.edu)
- Check [accjc.org](http://accjc.org) and [sac.edu/accreditation](http://sac.edu/accreditation)



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Dank U

Merci

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Köszö

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Grazie

Thank  
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